

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 707

Introduced by Assembly Member Hancock

February 17, 2005

An act to add Section 49605 to the Education Code, relating to pupil counseling.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 707, as introduced, Hancock. Pupil counseling: academic and career exploration plan.

Existing law authorizes the governing board of any school district to provide a comprehensive educational counseling program for all pupils enrolled in the schools of the district.

This bill would authorize a school district to provide a pupil with an academic and career exploration plan prior to the completion of grade 9. The bill would require the plan to include a sequence consisting of academic courses that satisfy state and school district requirements and standards for entry into postsecondary education, a sequence consisting of courses or career exploration activities that provide an awareness of career opportunities or training for entry into the work world following graduation from high school, and participation in certain specified academies and programs that focus on career exploration or career and technical education, or both.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 49605 is added to the Education Code,
- 2 to read:

1 49605. (a) (1) The Legislature finds and declares all of the
2 following:

3 (A) All pupils enrolled in a secondary education program
4 should achieve the mastery of high-level skills and knowledge in
5 order to become productive members of society.

6 (B) All pupils should have opportunities to explore various
7 career interests and obtain career and technical training prior to
8 graduation from high school in order to make informed decisions
9 regarding future education and entry into the work world.

10 (C) School districts throughout the state should take additional
11 steps to ensure that all pupils and their parents or guardians
12 receive adequate assistance and guidance to achieve these goals.

13 (2) It is the intent of the Legislature that all school districts
14 maintaining a secondary education program assist entering high
15 school pupils and their parents or guardians develop an academic
16 and career exploration plan.

17 (b) A school district may provide an individualized academic
18 and career exploration plan for pupils prior to completion of
19 grade 9. The plan shall be developed by the pupil, the parent or
20 guardian of the pupil, and a school counselor possessing a valid
21 credential with a specialization in pupil personnel services who is
22 assigned specific times to directly counsel pupils, and shall be
23 reviewed annually thereafter. The review of the plan shall
24 include a consideration of the pupil's academic and career
25 exploration or vocational educational progress, and any desired
26 changes for the following school year. The plan shall include all
27 of the following:

28 (1) A sequence consisting of academic courses that satisfy
29 state and school district requirements, and standards for entry
30 into postsecondary education.

31 (2) A sequence consisting of courses or career exploration
32 activities designed to provide an awareness of career
33 opportunities, or training for entry into the work world
34 subsequent to graduation from high school, or both.

35 (3) Participation in small learning communities, academies,
36 partnership academies, career and technical training programs,
37 work experience programs, and other programs that focus on
38 career exploration or career and technical education, or both.
39 This training shall be described by the plan and may satisfy
40 paragraph (2).

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